



NEWS

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Environmental Justice Working Group Members Sought

Representatives from community and environmental organizations who wish to participate in an Environmental Justice Working Group are being sought. The Working Group will meet monthly over the next 14 months to review and make recommendations for incorporating the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's "Guiding Principles of Environmental Justice" into Air District operations. In addition to the Air District, the Working Group will have 15 members: three from community groups, three from environmental groups, three business representatives, two labor representatives, three additional members from public agencies and one member from academia. Each member will have one vote.

"As a labor representative on the Working Group, I want to encourage community and environmental groups to join us in this process", said Jim Payne of the Paper Allied-Industrial Chemical and Energy Workers Union (PACE), Local 8-5. "We need to work together to make environmental justice a reality, and this is an important step forward in that process," Payne said.

Representatives of community and environmental organizations who represent areas they feel are impacted by air pollution and are willing to work through a collaborative process are encouraged to apply. The monthly meetings will be held at Air District headquarters in San Francisco during business hours, or in various locations in the community in the evening. A stipend of \$50 per meeting is provided.

Interested persons should contact Christine Schaufelberger, the Air District Ombudsman, at 415-749-4779 or by e-mail at cschaufelberger@baaqmd.gov for a detailed scope of work. The information is also available on the Air District's web page at www.baaqmd.gov under Environmental Justice. Deadline for nominations is Wednesday, September 20, 2000.

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